



# News Release

**For immediate release:** January 21, 2010

(10-009)

Contacts: Janelle Teachman, Office of Investigation and Inspection 360-236-4876  
Allison Cook, Communications Office 360-236-4022

## **Thurston County osteopath's license suspended over safety concerns**

**OLYMPIA** — Witness accounts of behavior by a Thurston County osteopathic physician have led to an immediate suspension of his license. The action by the Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery and the state Department of Health means Eric D. Thomas (DO.OP.00001758) cannot practice as an osteopathic physician in Washington pending further action by the board.

According to the statement of charges, Thomas is unable to practice safely based on behavior observed between November 13, 2009 and December 15, 2009. Witnesses say that during this time, Thomas said he believes satellite signals are directing him in everything he does, including treating patients. He also appeared incoherent at times in his office, and seemed unable to link topics together in a logical fashion.

Thomas has 20 days to respond to the statement of charges.

The statement of charges and summary documents are available online by clicking the link to "Provider Credential Search" on the [Department of Health home page](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov) or by calling 360-236-4700. Anyone who believes a health care provider acted unprofessionally is encouraged to call that number to report their complaint.

The Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery regulates osteopathic physicians in Washington. The program establishes, monitors, and enforces qualifications for licensing, consistent standards of practice, continuing competency mechanisms, and discipline. Rules, policies, and procedures promote the delivery of quality health care to state residents.

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Visit the Washington Department of Health Web site at <http://www.doh.wa.gov> for a healthy dose of information.